

Application Serial No. 10/701,306
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2005

PATENT
Docket: CU-3424

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 21, 2004, Applicant filed an Amendment on March 16, 2005 ("Last Amendment"). The USPTO, in response to the filed Last Amendment, has then issued the present Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment ("Notice").

The Notice indicates that Claim 5 listed in the Last Amendment includes incorrect claim header of "(original)", because this claim had been previously amended in the Preliminary Amendment ("Preliminary Amendment") filed November 4, 2003.

First, in the present amendment, the header of Claim 5 has been replaced with – (previously presented)–.

Second, in the present amendment, the header of Claim 6 has also been replaced with –(previously presented)–. It is noted that the Claim 6 in the present amendment is identical to the amended Claim 6 in the Preliminary Amendment.

Third, in the Preliminary Amendment, new Claims 8-12 were added.

Therefore, the claims that remain pending before the Office Action dated December 21, 2004 should be Claims 1-12 (not Claims 1-7). Therefore, the Office Action Summary of December 21, 2004, Item 4), indicating that Claim 1-7 as pending is incorrect. Correction of this error, which appears to be due to an inadvertent mistake, is respectfully requested in the next office communication.

Fourth, the Last Amendment failed to indicate the Office Action error of pending claims when responding to it. For this reason, the new claim added in the Last Amendment was accorded with an incorrect claim number of "8". The correct claim

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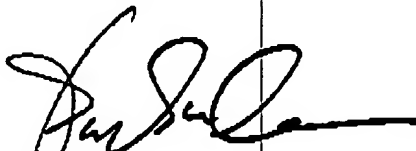
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number for the new claim added in the Last Amendment should be –Claim 13–. The Examiner is respectfully requested to make a note of this claim number change (i.e., from "8" to –13–) when reviewing the Last Amendment.

The listing of claims in the present paper is considered to include all pending Claims 1-13. This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment.

Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: March 30, 2005

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